

Final Results Report

Tearfund Food Security, Health Provision, Nutrition and IDP Support in Northern Bahr El Ghazal (Sudan)

March 2005 - February 2006

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| Programme Title: | Food Security, Health Provision, Nutrition and IDP |
|------------------------------------|--|
| | Support in Northern Bahr El Ghazal (Sudan) |
| OFDA Grant Number: | DFD-G-00-05-00088-00 |
| Country/Region: | Southern Sudan / Aweil East & Aweil North Counties |
| | of Bahr El Ghazal Region |
| Type of Disaster/Hazard: | Civil Strife |
| Time Period Covered by the Report: | 1st March 2005 – 28th February 2006 |

Executive Summary

After 12 months of project implementation, good progress was achieved in all the objectives of the project.

Concerning food security activities, a seed-fair that targeted 5,000 households was completed successfully and the beneficiaries (4,115 female and 885 male households) received sorghum, groundnuts and simsim seeds. Three agricultural extension workers (AEWs) completed institutional training at Yei Training Institute. Fifty new farmers successfully completed training in ox ploughing and were given ox-ploughs. 873 farmers whose harvest failed in 2004 were re-issued with rice seeds and participated in rice cultivation activities.

The Primary Health Care activities in the highlands were suspended due to the rains, which cut off Omdurman from the rest of Aweils in July. The project recommenced in the second week of October 2005. Four PHCUs were established with 4 Village Development Committees to support them. 9,393 patients were treated, 830 children under one year were immunised while 366 women of childbearing age were immunized against tetanus. In addition, 30 TBAs were trained and they assisted 12 women with safe deliveries. In CHE different approaches were adopted in disseminating health, hygiene and HIV/AIDS messages to the different segments of the community. 200 soldiers and 88 community elders received HIV/AIDs awareness messages. 358 direct and 1,782 indirect VTP participants were reached with health messages; topics included malaria, diarrhoea, HIV/AIDS and malnutrition. 120 school children in 4 schools received child - to- child health education. 2,434 ITNs were distributed to beneficiaries and pregnant mothers.

The nutrition activities were undertaken from 8 decentralized sites across the 8 payams. Following the post harvest nutrition assessment conducted in Aweil East County in January 2005, the nutritional analysis indicated high prevalence of malnutrition (GAM 15.9%). The assessment also revealed higher prevalence of malnutrition in the lowlands of the county (GAM 18.2%). Three feeding sites were set up in the lowland **areas** in order to carry out emergency feeding for a period of three months. The rationale for this move was to provide the relief support to the target groups in the lowlands before the onset of rains. 3,367, children were admitted into the Supplementary Feeding Programme while 897 children were admitted into the Out Patient Programme since the beginning of the project.

A total of 1,122 kits were received by Tearfund from UNICEF out of which 1,118 kits were distributed to vulnerable households in February 2006. The four remaining will be distributed to special cases still to be identified.

Overall, the numbers of beneficiaries reached through all the objectives far exceed those in the proposal

II Beneficiary Numbers

Table 1: Beneficiaries targeted and reached to date

| | Objective 1: Health | Objective 2: Nutrition | Objective 3: IDP Support | Objective 4: Food Security |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Number of beneficiaries targeted | | | | |
| during the reporting period | 15,302 | 3,300 | 1,200HH 7200 individuals | 38,386 |
| Number of beneficiaries reached | 17,923 | 4,264 | 1,118 HH | 37,005 |
| during the reporting period | | | 6,708 individuals | |
| Total numbers of beneficiaries | 65,900 | | | |
| reached | | | | |

Table 2: Division of beneficiaries by project period.

| Project component | Number of beneficiaries Reached | | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|--|
| | March 05 - Feb 06 | March 05 - Sep 05 | Oct 05 - Feb 06 | |
| Objective 1: Health | 17,923 | 895 | 17,028 | |
| Objective 2: Nutrition | 4,264 | 4,187 | 77 | |
| Objective 3: IDP Support | 6,708 | 0 | 6708 | |
| Objective 4: Food Security | 37,005 | 37,005 | 0 | |
| Total | 65,900 | 42,087 | 23,813 | |

This project has reached 65,900 beneficiaries in total.

III Objective 1 – Report Against Indicators

Objective 1: Health - To improve levels of health and hygiene practice and knowledge and establish strong and sustainable primary health care services.

Illa Narrative

Primary Health Care activities of the Health Project were suspended from July and recommenced in the second week of October. Upon recommencement, 4 PHCUs were established. During the first three weeks after two PHCUs were constructed, 2,000 patients were attended to. Four Village Development Committees were established and supported the PHCUs using the cost sharing revenue. 6 staff members were trained on child protection. 9,393 patients were treated during the entire project, 830 children under one year olds were immunised while 366 women of childbearing age were also immunized against tetanus. In addition, 30 TBAs were trained and they assisted 12 women with safe deliveries. Since the programme was reopened in Mid October, the time available to identify the TBA trainees, train them and then for them to start delivering babies was too short to meet the target of 200 women delivered by Traditional Birth Attendants. It was also not possible to streamline the health education modules at the PHCUs with enough time to meet the target. Thus the low numbers of patients reached with health education messages. 6 CHE extension workers attended a 3 day workshop on child protection in Lokichoggio.

Shortage of drugs posed a challenge to effective delivery of health services especially due to the large number of patients who sought medical attention. We requested some emergency drugs from UNICEF and also from the Oriny clinic.

The following health education modes were used to disseminate health, hygiene and nutrition messages:

- Use of the Village Transformation Training (VTT) method under which a small number of individuals selected per village is provided with intense training. They in turn identify who they will train. They are stimulus for change within the community.
- Health education sessions at the feeding project distribution sites spread throughout the county
- HIV/AIDS awareness raising within the local army barracks of the SPLA/M
- Child to child education within the neighbouring schools

Health education activities progressed well and a significant level of adoption of good practices was reported amongst project beneficiaries. There was an 80% increase over baseline among households who stored drinking water in clean container with lids. There was also a 54% increase over baseline among households whose cooking utensils were clean and were stored above **ground**. 200 soldiers and 88 community elders received HIV/AIDs awareness messages. With the signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement, most of the soldiers who had been reached with HIV/AIDs awareness messages were transferred to the Equatorial region, and as such it was not possible to conduct an evaluation survey as anticipated. 358 direct and 1,782 indirect VTP participants were reached with health messages, which included malaria, diarrhoea, HIV/AIDS and malnutrition. These were trained in 15 villages, 5 of which were in the Highlands. 120 school children in 4 schools have received child - to- child health education. It was not possible to reach the 600 school children as anticipated since during the project timeframe, schools were closed most of the time. However, the program reached the available 120 children through the child-to-child approach.

Table 3:Summary of progress against indicators for Objective 1 (Health)

| Expected results | Indicators | Progress |
|---|--|--|
| 4 PHCUs established, including sanitation facilities and wet season water supply, providing appropriate curative and preventive care throughout the project period | o 4 PHCUs established, staffed and operational | After a difficult start (the health work was suspended from July to the second week of October due to the rains) 4 PHCUs were established, staffed and were operational |
| o 4 village health committees actively supporting the PHCUs | o 4 Health committees formed | 4 health committees formed and supporting the PHCUs |
| 8,000 patients treated appropriately at the clinics, with adequate records | o 8,000 patients treated by PHCUs during project period | o 9,393 patients treated by the end of the project period |
| o 500 children under 1 vaccinated with DPT 3 by end of project | o 500 children under 1 vaccinated with DPT 3 by end of project | o 830 children under one vaccinated with DPT3 |
| o 100 women of child bearing age immunized with TT2 by end of project | o 100 women of child bearing age immunized with TT2 by end of project | o 366 women of child bearing age immunized |
| o 30 newly trained Traditional Birth Attendants | o 30 newly trained Traditional Birth Attendants | o 30 TBA trained and equipped for TBA activities. |
| o 200 women delivered by Traditional Birth Attendants | o 200 women delivered by trained Traditional Birth Attendants | o 12 women delivered by trained TBAs |
| o All PHCU staff using safe universal precautions in clinics by February 2006 | o All PHCU staff using safe universal precautions in clinics by February 2006 | o CHWs and EPI staff were trained on universal precaution |
| Improved knowledge and practices amongst at least 1,760 individuals and their families, on causes and prevention of communicable diseases including malaria, diarrhoea, malnutrition and HIV/AIDS | 50% of VTT beneficiaries demonstrating 2 or more good health and hygiene practices promoted by the programme by February 2006 10% random sample of 600 children taught yields test results proving increased knowledge about disease transmission by the end of Feb 2006 90% of PHCU staff and soldiers in army barracks know 3 methods of HIV/AIDS transmission and prevention by February 2006 | 66%.of the VTT beneficiaries demonstrating at least 2 good health and hygiene practices This was not done, since the schools were closed during most of the project period It was difficult to conduct the evaluation among the soldiers since all the ones who were trained have been redeployed to other areas |
| o At least 5,000 patients provided with health education at the clinics by the end of the project | o 5,000 patients received health education training from PHCU clinics by February 2006 | o 1,965 patients received CHE |
| o At least 80% of the 2,000 mosquito nets distributed being used regularly by end of project | o 1,600 mosquito nets distributed | o 2,434 mosquito nets were distributed |
| o 4 CHE extension workers knowledgeable and aware of child protection issues | o 4 CHE extension workers received Child Protection training | o 6 CHE extension workers received Child Protection training |

IIIb Assessment and Surveillance Data Used to Measure Results

Various reports were used to measure the reported results. These included KAP survey findings, CHE extension workers monitoring reports and observational visits made to the beneficiaries. In addition, PHCU, EPI and TBA reports were used in the PHCUs.

IIIc Demographic Profile of Targeted and Reached Beneficiaries

Beneficiaries of this project were drawn from all the payams of Aweil East County and one payam of Aweil North County as shown in the diagram below [Map 1]. According to Starbase NIDS 2003 figures, the estimated population across the whole of Aweil East County is approximately 374,112 persons. The population estimate for Malual East is approximately 115,029, including 5,200 IDPs and 2,600 returnees. 56,850 IDPs and refugees were stated to have returned to Aweil-East, - South and -North during 2004¹.

Map 1: Target population

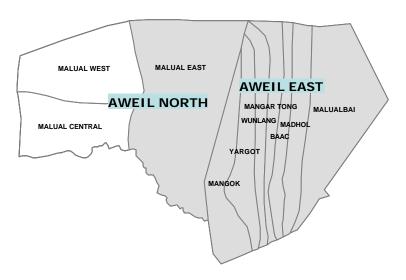


Table 4: Different aspects of the project target different population sectors.

| Tubic 4. Diliciciit | Table 4. Different aspects of the project target unferent population sectors. | | | |
|---------------------|---|---------------------------|---|--|
| Health Education | 0 | VTT | 0 | Selected individuals in the community then train |
| | 0 | HIV/AIDS awareness | 0 | neighbours, friends and family. Personnel in the neighbouring barracks and members of the community at large |
| | 0 | Child to child | 0 | Pupils in schools |
| Health | 0 | Curative and preventative | 0 | All members of the community |

IIId Quantitative and Qualitative Data

Sources of information referenced during project implementation were:

- Reports by health educators
- Health education monitoring, assessment and workshop reports by the OLS health education co-ordinator
- KAP survey report [2004 project]
- KAP Survey report- 2006
- PHCU reports
- EPI reports
- TBA reports

¹ "Draft projected returns in 2005", OCHA IMU-south Sudan, 4 November 04

IIIe Success Achieved

HIV/AIDS awareness

HIV/AIDS messages have been incorporated and disseminated within the VTP programme leading to significant increase of knowledge amongst project beneficiaries and an interest in discussing the disease awoken in the community. The survey showed that 92% had heard about HIV/AIDS, about 66% know that it is a sexually transmitted disease that will eventually kill you, 27% had more knowledge that it is a virus that attacks the body via the blood. 56% and 57% respectively said that it was spread through having unprotected sex and the tribal cutting with a dirty knife. On prevention, 72% believed in faithfulness in marriage, 30% opted for abstinence while 13% preferred using a condom.

Curative and preventative health

The opening of the 4 facilities has been of great relief to the communities in the highlands who have been covering 50-75km to get to the nearest health facility. This also reduced the burden on the MSF clinic at Akuem which was serving majority of patients in the entire county. An overwhelmingly large number of patients have attended the clinics. Having been in operation for three weeks, two clinics attended over 2,000 patients while the other two attended to over 700 patients during the first week of their operation.

IIIf Constraints

Construction of the PHCU at Omdurman began before the project suspension in July, but unfortunately was washed away before being roofed. From July to the second week of October the health project was suspended as access to the Highlands and the PHCU sites was impossible due to the rains. Once, the PHCUs were open they received many patients. However this affected numbers of patents that received CHE as well as the number of TBA assisted deliveries.

IIIq Overall Performance

The overall performance of the project was hampered due to closure of Omdurman project site from July to October. However, when the project resumed, during the second week of October, most of the indicators were met.

IIIh Summary of Cost Effectiveness

The average cost per beneficiary for the project is \$11.

IV Objective 2 – Report Against Indicators

Objective 2 Nutrition: To ensure that emergency nutritional responses are undertaken based on accurate assessment and a sound understanding of the root causes of malnutrition in the project area

IVa Narrative

A baseline survey of children under 5 was carried out in January 2005 in Aweil East County. Nutritional analysis results indicated that the Global Acute Malnutrition was **15.9%** while the Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM), was **2.2%**. The survey recommended to:

- Set up supplementary and therapeutic feeding programmes as soon as possible to prevent any further deterioration in nutritional status.
- Conduct a follow up Nutrition survey in May
- Advocate for WFP to conduct a food drop at 50% to the general population to alleviate the effects of the
 expected prolonged hunger period, which is expected to worsen from March 2005 till the end of the
 hunger period.
- Encourage UNICEF to sensitize the community in the highlands on the importance of measles and other vaccinations.

Table 5:Summary of progress against indicators for Objective 2 (Nutrition)

| Expected results | Indicators | Progress |
|---|--|--|
| Decentralised dry supplementary feeding provided to at least 2,500 moderately malnourished children under five years of age by February 2006. | Number of moderately malnourished children registered in the programme by end of project Recovery rate for enrolled children > 75% over project timeframe Death rate for SFP <3% over project timeframe Defaulter rate for enrolled children <15% over project timeframe Average Weight gain for SFP >3g/kg/day Average length of stay is 12 weeks in the SFP by end of project. 90% of children in programme immunised against measles by end of | 3,367 moderately malnourished children admitted for supplementary feeding 58% 0.2.% deaths reported 13% 2.3g/kg/day 11.4 weeks |
| | project. | o 89% immunised to date. |
| Home treatment of at least 500 severely malnourished children by October 2005, including severely malnourished children admitted to Phase 1 and transition phase TFC care, and including those children referred to MSF F TFC | Number of severely malnourished children registered in the programme by end of project Recovery rate for enrolled children > 75% over project timeframe Death rate for TFC / SC <10% over project timeframe Defaulter rate for enrolled children <15% over project timeframe Average Weight gain for OTP >4g/kg/day by end of project 60% of malnourished children in the target population reached over project timeframe. Average length of stay is 60 days in the OTP by end of project. 90% of children in programme immunised against measles by end of project. | 897 severely malnourished children admitted for outpatient therapeutic feeding 75 %. 1% 9%. 3.7g/kg/day 73.5% 63 days 91% |
| Two nutritional surveys completed at critical periods through 2005 and 2006, providing improved analysis of nutritional situation across the project area | o 30 x 30 cluster nutrition survey | Nutrition survey in January 2005 |

² The calculation formulas used for the confidence interval are corrected for the values nearest to the upper and lower limits and therefore, results are asymmetric.

The feeding project established 8 decentralized sites across the 8 payams. As population movements from the highlands to the lowlands in search of water intensified, it was recommended that feeding sites be set up in the lowland areas in order to carry out emergency feeding. Therefore, three feeding sites namely Ang'uek, Uyoon and Mabuktong' were identified and set up in the lowland for 4 months (February to June 2006) after which they were phased out.

To further increase the programme coverage, other centres in the mid and high lying food economy zones were opened in April and May including Malualkon, Malualbai, Yargot, Omdurman and Wargen. 3,367, children were admitted into the Supplementary Feeding project while 897 children were admitted into the Out Patient project during the project period.

In June 2005, MSF-F carried out a nutrition survey in Aweil East County. The results of the MSF-F survey revealed significant levels of malnutrition (26.3% global acute malnutrition and 4.0% severe acute malnutrition). After discussions with Tearfund, MSF-F opened a feeding centre in Akuem.

In November 2005, a post harvest nutrition and mortality survey for children under five years was carried out in Aweil East. The survey revealed a Global Acute Malnutrition of **14.4%** and a Severe Acute Malnutrition of **1.6%**

Wb Assessment and Surveillance Data Used to Measure Results

Sources of information / data:

- Tearfund January 2005 nutritional survey
- Tearfund January 2005 mortality survey.
- MSF-F June 2005 nutritional survey
- Tearfund November 2005 nutritional survey
- Anthropometric measurements in the feeding projects
- Monitoring reports by nutrition extension workers

IVC Demographic Profile of Targeted and Reached Beneficiaries

Refer to **IIIc**.

The feeding projects targeted malnourished children below five years, and other vulnerable groups. The January 2005 survey revealed a global malnutrition rate of 15.9% while the November survey revealed a global malnutrition rate of 14.4%. From the NIDS population figures, the population of the County is 429,265; of which it is normally assumed comprises 20% under fives. The levels in absolute terms translated to a substantial number of children in need of feeding in the whole of the county. These were 11,050 requiring both supplementary and outpatient feeding. Of these, 4,264 were reached through the supplementary and outpatient feeding.

IVd Quantitative and Qualitative Data

- Two 30x30 3 stage cluster surveys undertaken to internationally accepted standards in January 2005 and October/November 2005.
- Historical nutrition record levels global and severe
- Data provided through NGO co-ordination activities/fora

IVe Success Achieved

Malnourished children

4,264 moderately and severely malnourished children were admitted in the programme in Aweil East County as a result of nutritional interventions. They also received micronutrient supplements and deworming tablets.

As well as benefiting the malnourished children of the Aweils, the information shared within the nutrition and food security co-ordination for ahas had a much wider impact on food security and subsequent nutrition analysis across in the region.

Malaria Intervention

As the malaria season set in, the programme launched a malaria campaign in July attached to the feeding programme activities, in which malaria suspected cases were identified by use of RDT (paracheck³) and the positive cases treated with Artemesinin Combination Therapy (ACT). In addition, the mothers attending the feeding programme received education on controlling mosquitoes around their homes. The programme also issued Insect Treated Nets to caretakers of malnourished beneficiaries and provided a bar of soap fortnightly to mothers accompanying malnourished children during health education sessions.

Health and nutrition education

At the feeding centres basic nutrition education was given to all the mothers on how to prepare the rations and feed the malnourished children. Health Education was also given to the mothers by the extension workers. Topics ranged from personal and food hygiene to waste disposal and disease prevention.

Cooperation with other agencies

The programme worked closely with IRC, especially in ensuring that all the children were vaccinated which was done on distribution days. We also worked closely with MSF-France, who runs a TFC which is attached to their medical facility in Akuem. Children who were sick and severely malnourished and therefore needed inpatient care were referred to MSF-F unit in Akuem. In turn, they discharged those from the TFC into Tearfund OTP and SFP units.

Advocacy

Tearfund was successful in advocating for targeted 100% general food rations for households with malnourished individuals to WFP. In order to safe guard the food malnourished children received through Tearfund's feeding programme.

IVf Constraints

On many occasions, impassable roads as a result of bad weather led to postponement of feeding activities. As a result, defaulter rates rose due to difficulties in access for the beneficiaries and discouragement on the part of caretakers. When the rain stopped and access improved, follow-up also improved and so did the defaulter rate.

IVg Overall Performance

The nutrition project performed well with the current admissions above the targets set in the indicators in the proposal.

IVh Summary of Cost Effectiveness

The average cost per beneficiary for the project is \$35.

V Objective 3 – Report Against Indicators

Objective 3 IDP Support: To provide basic shelter and household necessities to support vulnerable returnee families in their initial settlement into their host communities

Table 6:Summary of progress against indicators for Objective 3 (IDP Support)

| Expected results | Indicators | Progress |
|---|---|---|
| 1,200 vulnerable returnee households | 1,200 IDP kits distributed to | 1,118 IDP kits were |
| assisted with basic necessities to facilitate | vulnerable returnee households | distributed to vulnerable |
| their initial settlement into host | by the end of the project. | returnee households |
| communities | , , | |

Va Narrative

Tearfund approached UNICEF in October/November 2005 to supply IDP kits to distribute to vulnerable host and returnee populations in Aweil East County. A total of 1,122 IDP kits were received by Tearfund from UNICEF on December 4th 2005. The organization carried out a process of identifying vulnerable host and IDP populations

³ Paracheck detect the Falciparium species of malaria.

through mobilization and sensitization of community leaders to develop lists of the intended beneficiaries. This was done in close collaboration with SRRC, UNOCHA and UNICEF. The distribution exercise was carried out on 21-24 February 2006 and a total of 1,118 kits were distributed. The four remaining will be distributed to special cases still to be identified.

Vb Assessment and Surveillance Data Used to Measure Results

Rapid needs assessment - November 2005

Vc Demographic Profile of Targeted and Reached Beneficiaries

The beneficiaries were identified using a vulnerability criteria developed jointly with UNICEF and UNOCHA Malualkon offices and shared with SRRC and the local leaders. The selection of the beneficiaries was based on the following criteria: people with disabilities; children who do not have parents or other caregivers; female heads of households and; the elderly. A total of 31 children received the kits, mainly composed of returnee population. An overwhelming majority of beneficiaries (97%) were women with only 7 men being recipients.

Vd Quantitative and Qualitative Data

Table 7:IDP kits were distributed as follows:

| Payam | Village | Number of beneficiaries |
|---|-------------------|-------------------------|
| Baac | Majak | 121 |
| | Uyoon | 172 |
| | Warawar | 100 |
| | Omdurman | 150 |
| | Malualkon | 25 |
| Yargot | Yargot & Guangkou | 306 |
| - | Malualdit | 244 |
| Total number of beneficiaries | | 1,118 |
| Total IDP kits received | | 1,122 |
| Balance of IDP kits (to be distributed to any special cases to be identified) | | 4 |

Ve Success Achieved

Distribution of IDPS

There was successful distribution of the 1,118 IDP kits to the returnees in Aweil East County.

Vf Constraints

The process of identifying actual beneficiaries took more than one month since the SRRC office in Malualkon had to delegate this responsibility to field supervisors who in turn had to delegate to local leaders, led by chiefs of the various bomas. Another contributory factor was the need for equity whereby each of the geographical zones – lowlands, midlands and highlands, had to be included in the distribution. Thus the mobilization process took longer than anticipated.

Vg Overall Performance

The objective was successfully met, with 99.6% kits distributed.

Vh Summary of Cost Effectiveness

The average cost per beneficiary for the project is \$14.

Objective 4 – Report Against Indicators

Objective 4 Food Security: To reduce vulnerability to food insecurity through increased quantity and variety of food available to the communities in the targeted areas

Table 8:Summary of progress against indicators for Objective 4 (food security)

| Expected results | Indicators | Progress |
|---|--|---|
| Over 5,000 vulnerable families, including returnees, enabled to plant and cultivate a harvest for 2005 | Seed and tool fairs, ahead of the 2005 planting season, resulting in 5,000 vulnerable HH enabled to buy 8 Kgs of seed from a choice of at least 5 local varieties and appropriate tools. | Seed fair held and 5,000 households reached. Each received a mixture of groundnut, simsim, maize and sorghum seed (of local varieties from local sources) |
| Rice seed redistributed to 633 rice farmers in the lowlands (whose harvest failed during 2004) | o 633 farmers planted rice by July 2005 | 873 households were issued with rice seeds |
| 8 Agricultural Extension workers and 80 contact farmers with improved knowledge on sustainable agricultural practices, modelling these practices on their land by February 2006 | 2 AEWs completed at least 3 months formal training at a suitable training facility in improved agricultural techniques by February 2006 At least 80% of the AEWs have increased knowledge over baseline in agricultural techniques by February 2006 as measured by written examination 80% of contact farmers practice improved agricultural techniques on own land by February 2006 | 3 AEWs completed 3 months formal training at a Yei Training Institute. 68% of the AEWs have increased knowledge over baseline in agricultural techniques 65% of contact farmers practice improved agricultural techniques on own land |
| 50 new farmers with oxen trained and participating in ox-ploughing At least 250 feddans of land of vulnerable HH ploughed under ox plough cost recovery arrangement | 80% of farmers who received an ox plough during 2005 had an increase of at least an additional 5 feddans of land under cultivation 250 extra feddans of land ploughed for vulnerable HH by ox plough beneficiaries by August 2005 | 80% of the ox-plough farmers had a 63.98 % increase in land under cultivation, The ox-plough farmers received the ox-ploughs in May and this did not allow enough time before the rains started to cultivate for the vulnerable households as was expected under the voucher system. |
| o 500 households in the project area planting fruit trees | 2,000 fruit trees distributed with at least 1500 surviving by February 2006 | The early arrival of the rains and the timing of OFDA approval of this project was such that the fruit tree planting could not take place as the planting season was too far advanced |

Vla Narrative

Seed fair

The rains hampered mobility during the rainy season, due to the poor infrastructure in the County. To enable seed fairs to be carried out as scheduled, Tearfund required that sellers transport their own seeds to and from the designated market locations. This significantly facilitated food security activities in light of the poor road infrastructure and the onset of rains. 5,000 households received seeds and farming tools through seed fairs in good time for planting. Four varieties of locally available seed varieties namely sorghum, maize, groundnuts and simsim as well as tools were obtained from local sources and distributed to the beneficiaries in the two payams of Baac and Mangartong. The exercise was complete without much difficulty except for the lack of seeds in some areas in which case Tearfund helped by transporting seeds from other parts of the county.

USD 45,167 was injected into the local economy through the purchase of seeds and tools from individuals in the community. Under the seed fair system, vulnerable households were identified through the local administrative and social support structures and given monetary vouchers. Meetings were held with local authorities in the two Payams of Baac and Mangartong in Aweil East County. In each Payam the number of vulnerable groups including returnee, widows and disabled families members which were targeted totalled to 5,000 households. Meetings were also held with seed farmers and traders of the two Payams for the purpose of finding out availability of different seed types in each Payam. Farmers set up a committee to ensure they take seeds to various centers where seed fairs were conducted. Agriculture Extension Workers registered the 2,500 beneficiaries from each payam. Tearfund purposely targeted vulnerable returnee/displaced households with the aim of facilitating their resettlement and decreasing their dependence on the host community.

<u>Training of Agricultural extension workers and contact farmers</u>

Three agricultural extension workers were enrolled in the Yei Training Institute and completed their three-months training. Upon completion of the training, one of the AEWs resigned while the other two reported back to duty. 18 existing and 6 new AEWs received regular training and they in turn trained 240 contact farmers over a 4 month period. From the assessments carried out, 68% of the AEWs demonstrated increase in knowledge over baseline in the agricultural techniques. 65% of the contact farmers also practice improved agricultural techniques on their farms.

Ox ploughing

50 farmers and ox-teams were trained in ox ploughing in the project period after which they received 50 ox-ploughs. The ox ploughs were distributed on a cost-recovery basis whereby each farmer was to plough for five vulnerable households. In total, it was anticipated that 250 feddans would be ploughed for the vulnerable households. However, this was not possible since the onset of the rains commenced earlier than anticipated and the farmers claimed that they did not have sufficient time to plough for the vulnerable households.

From the assessment conducted, 80% of the ox-plough farmers had a 63.98 % increase in land under cultivation, by the end of the project.

Rice cultivation

873 rice farmers who failed to get any yield last year were re-issued with seeds. Initially the number anticipated was 633 but it increased to 873 as some rice plots were engulfed in fire. In order to accommodate the increase in the number of beneficiaries the total amount to be given to each farmer was reduced from the initial amount of 8 malwas to 7.5 malwas. As a result, 54MT were harvested, according to the yield assessment conducted.

Fruit tree seedlings

Fruit tree nurseries and seedlings were not established during this project period, as they should have been established before the rainy season, which started before the beneficiaries could be identified and trained.

Assessment reports

A crop assessment was conducted in October 2005 to not only determine the needs, but also the capacities of the communities. From the assessment, 35% of the household lacked tools and the available ones were worn out. 23% of the households encountered hunger during this period and therefore could not expand their land more than 2 feddans. 12% reported that drought and sickness contributed to their not preparing land as some had to walk more then 50-60 Kms to reach a PHCU or PHCC in the counties.

Crop performance was affected by various factors. 34% of the households attributed this to striga infestation, 26% to drought, while 20% attributed the low performance to insect infestation.

VIb Assessment and Surveillance Data Used to Measure Results

- Seed fair reports
- AEWs reports
- Training reports
- Crop Assessment October 2005

VIc Demographic Profile of Targeted and Reached Beneficiaries

Refer to IIIc

Table 9: Different aspects of projects targeting:

| Objective | Project aspect | Target population |
|---------------|--|--|
| Food Security | Seed fairAgricultural trainingOx-plough technology | Returnees and vulnerable households Selected farmers in the community and agricultural extension workers Selected farmers in the community |
| | o Rice production | Selected farmers in the community with access to land along the rivers whose crop failed in 2004 |

VId Quantitative and Qualitative Data

a) Table 10: Summarised break-down of seeds and tools procured locally and distributed through the seed fair

| Item | Quantity |
|---------------------|--------------|
| Sorghum | 16 MT |
| Groundnuts | 37.5 MT |
| Simsim | 8 MT |
| Maloda (local hoes) | 5,000 pieces |

b) Table 11: Procurement and distribution of rice seeds [all rice seeds were procured locally]

| Centre | Beneficiaries | Sorghum | Simsim | Groundnuts | Maize | Traders |
|-----------------|---------------|---------|--------|------------|-------|---------|
| Baac | 625 | 2 | 1 | 4.6875 | 0.5 | 5 |
| Bakhou | 1,250 | 4 | 2 | 9.375 | 1 | 5 |
| Mangartong | 1,000 | 3.2 | 1.6 | 7.5 | 0.8 | 12 |
| Maper ping dong | 500 | 1.6 | 0.8 | 3.75 | 0.4 | 5 |
| Marial adal | 500 | 1.6 | 0.8 | 3.75 | 0.4 | 5 |
| Marial ajuong | 500 | 1.6 | 0.8 | 3.75 | 0.4 | 7 |
| Omdurman | 625 | 2 | 1 | 4.6875 | 0.5 | 5 |
| Total | 5,000 | 16 | 8 | 37.5 | 3.6 | 44 |

c) Table 12: Beneficiaries of rice seeds and their areas of origin.

| Payam | Number |
|------------|--------|
| Malualbai | 77 |
| Madhol | 97 |
| Baac | 43 |
| Mangartong | 87 |
| Wunlang | 216 |
| Yargot | 193 |
| Mangok | 83 |
| MalualEast | 77 |
| Total | 873 |

Vle Success Achieved

Facilitation of resettlement by returnees

Population returns continued following the signature of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement, although numbers reduced in the wet season. The influx was most significant in the northern Bahr El Ghazal Region. Registration and tracking problems persisted, making it difficult to estimate the numbers of returnees and their destinations. Secondary data from agencies, SRRC, assessments and IOM tracking system in the North gave 25,072 as the number of returnees in Aweil East between January and March 2005. Thereafter in May, the local authorities estimated a daily influx of 500-600 returnees into the county. Tearfund provided seeds and local digging tools (malodas) to facilitate the returnees' integration into the community and to reduce competition over local resources, which are already overstretched.

Expansion of rice cultivation

Tearfund continue to support rice farmers in the county. 873 rice farmers whose harvest failed in 2004 were reissued with rice seeds and were engaged in cultivation activities during the project period.

Improving the County's markets

For the third year running, Tearfund organised seed fairs in Northern Bahr el Ghazal affording the County's farmers an opportunity to market their seeds. In addition to the proposed 5,000 recipients of seeds, 44 suppliers benefited from selling their seeds and tools at the seed fair.

VIf Constraints

The rains were early and the timing of OFDA approval of this project was such that some activities like fruit tree planting could not take place since the planting season was too far advanced. In addition, the ox-plough farmers received the ox-ploughs in May and this was not enough time before the rains started to cultivate for the vulnerable households as was expected under the voucher system.

Vlg Overall Performance

Good progress has been made under all food security activities and the project met the projected results, except for the tree planting result.

VIh Summary of Cost Effectiveness

The average cost per beneficiary for the project is \$9.